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EXAMINER

SINGH, RAMNANDAN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2646

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/644,931

Applicant(s)

JEON, CHEOL-MIN

Examiner

Ramnandan Singh

Art Unit

2646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on Dec. 27, 2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3, 6-12, 15-17, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lipton et al [US 5,991,398].

Regarding claim 1, Lipton et al teach a communication apparatus having a one-way speakerphone operation, as shown in Fig. 1, comprising:

a handset (32) connected to the communication apparatus by a transmit-receive line, for a two-way communication operation, wherein the transmit-receive line is enabled when the handset of the communication apparatus is off-hook [Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 11-18; col. 4, lines 31-52];

a speaker (154) outputting a sound of the handset communication, to implement the one-way speakerphone operation [Fig. 2; col. 6, lines 37-45];

an input key part (56) comprising a selection key (66) to select the one-way speakerphone operation (i.e. either receive or transmit) [Fig. 3; col. 6, lines 55-64] and a plurality of dial keys (62) for a dialing of communication apparatus [col. 3, lines 3-13]; and

a central control device (i.e. microcontroller) (100) controlling the one-way speakerphone operation of the speaker (154) [Fig. 2; col. 5, lines 51-58; Fig. 3; col. 6, lines 46-67];

wherein a conversation signal is transmitted through the speaker in response to the handset being off-hook [col. 3, lines 49-52], the one-way speakerphone operation selection key (66) signal being input [col. 3, lines 23-25], and the dialing having being completed is inherently present in the speakerphone [Figs. 1-4; col. 1, line 53 to col. 2, line 18; col. 2, line 54 to col.4, line 65].

Claim 3 is essentially similar to claim 1 and is rejected for the reasons stated above.

Regarding claim 6, Lipton et al teach a communication apparatus having a one-way speakerphone operation, as shown in Fig. 1, comprising:

a handset (32) connected to the communication apparatus by a transmit-receive line, for a two-way communication operation [Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 11-18; col. 4, lines 31-52];

a speaker (154) for one-way speakerphone operation [Fig. 2; col. 6, lines 37-45];; and

a control device (i.e. microcontroller) (100) controlling the one-way speakerphone operation of the speaker (154) [Fig. 2; col. 5, lines 51-58; Fig. 3; col. 6, lines 46-67],

wherein the feature that a sound is not transmitted through the speaker until a dialing has been completed such that a ring back tone and the actual conversation after the establishment of the talk path are inherently present in the speakerphone.

Claim 17 is essentially similar to claim 6 and is rejected for the reasons stated above.

Claim 21 is essentially similar to claim 17 except for a machine-readable storage storing information to enable a device to perform a method. Lipton et al teach a machine-readable storage storing information to enable a device to perform a method [col. 10, lines 56-64; col. 12, lines 33-48; col. 14, lines 36-57; col. 16, lines 25-42].

Regarding claim 22, Lipton et al teach a communication apparatus having a one-way speakerphone operation, as shown in Fig. 1, comprising:

a handset (32) connected to the communication apparatus by a transmit-receive line, for a two-way communication operation [Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 11-18; col. 4, lines 31-52];

a speaker (154), separate from the handset, to perform at least a one-way speakerphone operation, while the handset is performing two way operation (i.e. a conversation signal is transmitted through the speaker in response to the handset being off-hook) [Fig. 2; col. 6, lines 37-45; col. 3, lines 49-52]; and

wherein the feature that a sound is not transmitted through the speaker in the one-way communication operation until a dialing of the communication apparatus has been completed is inherently present in the speakerphone.

Regarding claim 7, Lipton et al further teach the communication apparatus, wherein the transmit-receive line is enabled when the handset is off-hook [col. 3, lines 49-52].

Regarding claim 8, Lipton et al further teach the communication apparatus comprising an input key part (56) comprising a selection key (66) for the one-way speakerphone operation of the speaker and a plurality of dial keys (62) [Fig. 3; col. 6, lines 55-64; col. 3, lines 3-13].

Regarding claims 9-12, the limitations are shown above.

Regarding claims 15-16, Lipton et al further teach the communication apparatus comprising a memory device that stores user data and a program for the control device.

wherein the memory device comprises a ROM and a DRAM [col. 10, lines 56-64; col. 12, lines 33-48; col. 14, lines 36-57; col. 16, lines 25-42].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims 2, 4-5, 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipton et al as applied to claims 1 and 3 respectively above, and further in view of Bergen et al [US 4,536,621].

Regarding claim 2, Lipton et al do not teach expressly the communication apparatus having a one-way speakerphone function wherein a dial key signal is not input within a predetermined time of the handset being off-hook. However, this is well-known in the art.

Bergen et al teach a communication apparatus having a one-way speakerphone, wherein when the dial key signal is not input within a predetermined time of the handset being off-hook and with the one-way speakerphone function selection key signal being input, the central control device switches to an on-hook dial mode in which a user dials with the handset being on-hook, and the conversation signal is output through the speaker [Figs. 2-4; col. 2, lines 2-25; 3, lines 1-10; Abstract].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Bergen et al with Lipton et al in order to eliminate the possibility of one user disconnecting another user's telephone line [Bergen et al; Abstract].

Claim 4 is similar to claim 2 and is rejected for the reasons stated above.

Regarding claims 5, 18-20, the limitations are shown above.

6. Claims 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipton et al as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Parks et al [US 5,877,746 A].

Regarding claims 13-14, Lipton et al do not teach expressly using a personal computer interface.

Parks et al teach a communication apparatus comprising a personal computer interface coupling a personal computer (42) to the control device, wherein the personal computer interface interfaces the communication apparatus and the personal computer to transmit information there between [Figs. 4, 17; col. 6, line 50 to col. 7, line 46].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Parks et al with Lipton et al in order to integrate the system using the computer interface [Parks et al; col. 6, lines 50-64].

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lipton et al [US 6,940 968 B1] teach muting of audio input in response to handset being removed and unmuting of audio input in response to hookswitch being released [Fig. 3].

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2646

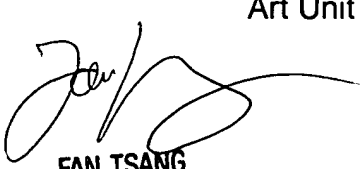
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramnandan Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ramnandan Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2646



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